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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

INFORMATION ON GDR FOREIGN TRADE  
DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1951

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

Grain and Meat Imports

28 March

From 1 February to 21 March 1951, 21,615 tons of wheat and barley arrived from the USSR in the Reichsbahn district of Magdeburg.

On 26 and 27 March, 35 carloads of beef and pork were received from the USSR in Frankfurt/Oder. The meat was transshipped to Leipzig and Cottbus. (1)

3 April

In March 1951 a total of 11,301 tons of Soviet grain for the German Democratic Republic was unloaded in the port of Wismar. The grain had been brought from Leningrad by the Soviet freighters Paerun /probably Pyarnu/, Yura, Olonets, and Volochayevsk. (2)

7 April

On 4 April, 83 carloads of beef and pork arrived in Frankfurt/Oder from the USSR. A large part of the meat was transshipped to Berlin and to Land Mecklenburg. (3)

8 June

On 4, 5, and 6 June, 62 carloads of beef and pork arrived in Sachsen from the USSR. The meat was transshipped to Dresden, Zwickau, and Chemnitz. (4)

On 5 June, 58 carloads of pork and beef arrived in Frankfurt/Oder from the Soviet Union. The Consumers' Import Clearing Office immediately expedited the meat to Halle, Erfurt, and Zwickau. (4)

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13 June

Since the end of February, 28 Soviet ships have unloaded a total of 60,000 tons of wheat, oats, and barley in Rostock harbor.

Of the above ships, nine freighters unloaded 16,500 tons of grain during May alone.(5)

Machine, Tool, and Equipment Exports

31 January

The people-owned Scharfenstein Plant is to produce, mainly for export, two newly developed refrigeration units. These are a household refrigerator with an improved condensation coil and a considerably larger cooling area than other models now available, and an ice cream freezer with two connected drums, which produces up to 40 kilograms of ice cream per hour.(6)

3 February

The people-owned Precision Instruments Plant in Freiberg exports miners' compasses to Bulgaria, mirror compasses to Czechoslovakia, and suspension theodolites for mine surveying to Sweden. China is interested in spirit-level clinometers and theodolites. Drum-type ship's sextants are being produced for use in the German Democratic Republic. The plant, which converted to the use of light metals in the manufacture of instruments, exports about 5.7 percent of its total output.(7)

17 February

The people-owned Nagma Plant in Goerlitz-Weinhuebel is turning out air-conditioning units for Bulgarian spinning and weaving mills now under construction.

The Nagma plant also exports air-conditioning units to Poland.(8)

21 February

The Plamag Factory in Plauen has completed a second 96-page high-speed rotary press for Poland. The first such machine was delivered in 1950.

The press has six 16-page printing units and four folding units. A new-type color-printing device is employed; the color is regulated from the outside. The rotary press turns out 320,000 six-page newspapers per hour. Installation in Warsaw is to be completed by 1 May.(9)

25 March

Ten Universal milling machines, the first installment of an extensive export order, have been shipped to the USSR by the people-owned Wanderer Milling-Machine Works in Chemnitz.(10)

28 March

At the 1951 Leipzig Spring Fair the people-owned Wanderer Milling-Machine Works (Chemnitz) booked double the amount of export orders received at last year's fair.

Eighty percent of the orders were for shipments to the USSR and the people's democracies, the balance for exports to Sweden and the Netherlands.(1)

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Miscellaneous3 January

Sizeable export orders for a newly developed high-grade clinical thermometer have been received by the Glassware and Ceramics Division of the DAHA (German Foreign Trade Agency).(11)

3 February

The internationally established Blue Hand brand slate pencils from the Steinach quarries in Thuringen are again greatly in demand for export. During the war Portugal had captured most of the market outlets.

Large sums were invested recently in improvements at the Steinach quarries, and the output has been increased.

Apparently slate products are of significance for the expansion of the East German export program.(7)

24 February

The Emil Otto Company in Magdeburg has received orders for chemical products from Sweden and Czechoslovakia.

The plant produces high-grade soldering, welding, tinning, and blanching agents in quantities sufficient for domestic requirements and export, notably to Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia.

Other products manufactured for export include flux, packings, bronzing, calibration assemblies for measuring instruments, and tinning agents. These are shipped to Switzerland, Belgium, Sweden, and Finland.(12)

30 March

Under existing trade agreements, East Germany imported 108,000 pairs of leather shoes from Czechoslovakia and 10,000 from Hungary. The shoes were sold to workers in Land Mecklenburg.(13)

8 June

Twelve carloads of uncombed wool from the People's Republic of China have arrived in Leipzig for further processing. This makes a total of 200 tons of uncombed wool and 35 tons of camel hair received from China within the past few days. Other shipments of animal hair and raw silk have also been received.(14)

11 June

During the last third of May, 20 additional carloads of raw cotton were received from the USSR by the Leipzig Baumwollspinnerei (Spinning Mills). This brings the total cotton received from the USSR in May to 60 carloads.(15)

Trade Agreements With Sweden and Czechoslovakia7 February

Under a trade agreement which expires 30 June 1951, the German Democratic Republic is to supply Sweden with mining and chemical products, stockings and socks, rayon-wool materials, zippers, insulating tape for industrial use, cellulose textiles, laces, carpets, upholstering material, cotton towels, iron and

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metal goods, hunting rifles, needles for textile machines, machine tools, industrial and textile machines as well as accessories and spare parts, instruments and apparatus for scientific, surgical, and industrial use, paper processing, printing and bookbinding machines with accessories and spare parts, sanitary equipment, portable typewriters, long-carriage machines, standard typewriters, calculating and billing machines, bookkeeping machines, cameras and projectors, musical instruments and accessories, electrical supplies, chemical porcelain, optical lenses, glass for storage battery casings, isolators, photochemicals, photographic plates and paper, motion picture and color film, medical and other thermometers, household porcelain, earthenware, pottery, laboratory and other Jena glass for industrial and technical purposes, household glass, Jena feeding bottles, toys, Christmas tree decorations, cars and accessories, field glasses, hides, athletic supports, etc.

Shipments will be f.o.b. Sassnitz. Prices will be quoted in Swedish kronor. All contacts must clear through DAHA (German Foreign Trade Agency). Payments by letters of credit will be made to the DAHA-SUKAB accounts via the Deutsche Notenbank in Berlin and the Skandinaviska Banken in Stockholm.(16)

#### 28 February

A barter agreement involving goods worth 72 million kronor was concluded in Berlin between the A/B SUKAB, Stockholm, and DAHA (German Foreign Trade Agency). The agreement will be in effect until 30 June 1951.(17)

#### 3 April

Under a barter agreement, the German Democratic Republic is to supply the Association of Swedish Coal Importers with 150,000 tons of brown coal briquettes, valued at 6.75 billion kronor. Provisions have been made to increase shipments to total up to 300,000 tons.(18)

#### 8 June

A German-Czech trade agreement was signed on 4 June 1951 by Georg Handke, East German Minister of Inter-German and Foreign Trade, and Antonin Gregor, Foreign Trade Minister for Czechoslovakia. Under the agreement the exchange of goods will be increased by more than one third.

The German Democratic Republic will ship important raw materials, mainly for the chemical and rubber industries, artificial fertilizer, and capital goods. Czechoslovakia will supply heavy industrial and metallurgical products.(19)

#### SOURCES

1. Berlin, Taegliche Rundschau, 28 Mar 51
2. Ibid., 3 Apr 51
3. Ibid., 7 Apr 51
4. Ibid., 8 Jun 51
5. Ibid., 13 Jun 51
6. Berlin, Nachrichten fuer Aussenhandel, 31 Jan 51
7. Ibid., 3 Feb 51
8. Ibid., 17 Feb 51
9. Ibid., 21 Feb 51
10. Taegliche Rundschau, 25 Mar 51
11. Nachrichten fuer Aussenhandel, 3 Jan 51
12. Ibid., 24 Feb 51

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13. Taegliche Rundschau, 30 Mar 51
14. Schwerin, Landes-Zeitung, 8 Jun 51
15. Berlin, Nacht-Express, 11 Jun 51
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17. Ibid., 28 Feb 51
18. Zurich, Neue Zuercher Zeitung, 3 Apr 51
19. Potsdam, Maerkische Volksstimme, 8 Jun 51

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